

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application is requested in view of the above amendments and in light of the following remarks and discussion.

Claims 1-24 and 26-38 remain pending in the application. Claims 1-24 and 26-38 are amended. Support for the changes to the claims is self-evident from the originally filed disclosure, including the original claims, and therefore no new matter is added.

In the Office Action<sup>1</sup>, claims 1-11, 13, 14, 16-24, and 26-38 are rejected as anticipated by U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0224474 to Gandolfo ("Gandolfo"), and claims 12, 15, and 37 are rejected as unpatentable over Gandolfo in view of "Computer Networks: A System Approach," by Peterson et al. ("Peterson"). It is requested that the claim rejections be withdrawn, and that the claims be allowed, for at least the following reasons.

Amended independent claim 1 recites "[a] method for dynamically establishing an ad-hoc network including a plurality of work machines," including, among other features, "forwarding a packet received from a first work machine . . . to a second work machine [,] . . . the packet containing information relating to an operational parameter of a mechanical system on-board one of the plurality of work machines." It is submitted that at least these features are not disclosed, or even suggested, by Gandolfo.

Gandolfo discloses "[a] wireless scatternet that has at least two networks . . . . The controllers will pass network information to each other in various ways depending

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<sup>1</sup> The Office Action contains a number of statements reflecting characterizations of the related art and the claims. Regardless of whether any such statement is identified herein, Applicants decline to automatically subscribe to any statement or characterization in the Office Action.

upon the extent of overlap between the networks." Abstract. In Gandolfo, "the network 305 includes a controller 310 and a plurality of devices 321-325 . . . . Each device 321-325 of the network 305 may be a different wireless device, for example, a digital still camera, a digital video camera, a personal data assistant (PDA), a digital music player, or other personal wireless device. ¶ 10; and Fig. 3.

However, Gandolfo's network of personal wireless devices does not constitute "an ad-hoc network including a plurality of work machines" (emphasis added). See, e.g., Applicant's specification at ¶ 31. Further, the information passed in Gandolfo's network does not "contain[] information relating to an operational parameter of a mechanical system on-board one of the plurality of work machines" (emphasis added). Gandolfo simply does not contemplate "an ad-hoc network including a plurality of work machines."

Amended independent claims 13, 26, and 38, while of different scope from independent claim 1, recite features similar to those discussed above with respect to claim 1, and are therefore allowable over Gandolfo for at least similar reasons to those discussed above. The remaining claims depend from one of the independent claims, and are therefore allowable at least because of their dependence, inasmuch as Peterson fails to remedy the deficiencies of Gandolfo.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this application, withdrawal of the rejections, and the timely allowance of the pending claims.

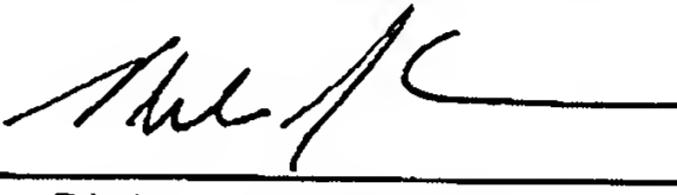
Application No.: 10/646,809  
Attorney Docket No. 08350.3304-03

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge  
any additional required fees to our Deposit Account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: September 30, 2008

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